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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/652,113	08/29/2000	Janine W. Corley	INETCAM.004A	2336
20995	7590	12/02/2005	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP			COULTER, KENNETH R	
2040 MAIN STREET			ART UNIT	
FOURTEENTH FLOOR			PAPER NUMBER	
IRVINE, CA 92614			2141	

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 4 – 18 and 30 - 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kikinis (U.S. Pat. No. 6,076,109) (Simplified-File Hyper Text Protocol).

- 2.1 Regarding claim 4, Kikinis discloses a method of distributing media data to a client computer via a network from a host computer, the method comprising:

receiving a data request at the host computer from a client computer via the network (Abstract; Figs. 3, 4);

capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 11, lines 35 – 48 “a digital **camera** apparatus is provided with the hand-held unit, and a user can snap digital pictures and send the data to the Proxy-Server or to any other machine on the Internet”; col. 15, lines 9 - 22);

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generating media data indicative of said data according to the client computer specific parameter (col. 15 lines 9 – 22 “create the best fit in multimedia content for the requested data according to the user’s device capabilities and characteristics”);

launching a module on the client computer (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 14, line 64 – col. 15, line 7);

receiving a client computer specific parameter from the module on the client computer (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 14, line 64 – col. 15, line 7); and

streaming media data to the client computer from the host computer via the network according to the client computer specific parameter (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 15, lines 9 - 22).

2.2 Per claim 5, Kikinis teaches that the client computer specific parameter comprises the processing capability of the client computer (col. 3, lines 26 – 27 “CPU processing power and speed”).

2.3 Regarding claim 6, Kikinis discloses that said streaming media data is at a rate compatible with the processing capability of the client computer (Abstract; col. 3, lines 23 – 27).

2.4 Per claim 7, Kikinis teaches that the media data stream is sent to the client computer while another media data stream is sent to another client at an

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independent rate (Abstract; col. 12, lines 42 – 50 “a single Proxy-Server may serve 100 or more field units simultaneously.”).

2.5 Regarding claim 8, Kikinis discloses that the client computer specific parameter is selected from the group consisting of video source selection, audio source selection, audio and video source selection, frame rate, compression level, image resolution, image brightness, image contrast, and image view (col. 2, lines 60 – 67; col. 7, lines 2 - 10).

2.6 Per claim 9, Kikinis teaches that the client computer is selected from the group consisting of a processor-controlled device or system that permits access to a network, including a terminal device, such as a personal computer, a workstation, a server, a client, a mini-computer, a main-frame computer, a laptop computer, a network of individual computers, a mobile computer, a palm-top computer, a hand-held computer, a set top box for a television, an interactive television, an interactive kiosk, a PDA, an interactive wireless communications device, and a mobile browser (col. 4, lines 45 – 58 “personal organizer”; “hand-held computer”; “PDA”; “set-top box”; “the computer used by a person to access and interact with the Proxy-Server in practicing the present invention **need not be a hand-held**, or even a portable computer ...”).

2.7 Regarding claims 10 - 12, Kikinis discloses that the media data comprises:

audio data (col. 6, lines 39 – 45 “playing **video and/or audio output**, as the case may be, depending on the downloaded data”);

video data (col. 6, lines 39 – 45); or

video and audio data (col. 6, lines 39 – 45).

2.8 Per claim 13, Kikinis does not explicitly teach:

launching a delay monitoring module on the client computer;

detecting a changed multimedia data stream transmission at the client computer;

sending a request via a network to a host computer requesting a changed multimedia data stream rate transmission;

sending a client computer specific parameter to the host computer via the network; and

sending a media data stream to the client computer via the network according to the client specific parameter.

However, the bandwidth that is deliverable to the client will vary over time, due to the load on the network varying over time, failure of system resources, etc.

Therefore, monitoring the rate at which data is actually being delivered to the client would enable the Kikinis system to further tailor the data being delivered to the client in Kikinis. This would allow the Kikinis system to alter the delivery method to compensate for bandwidth variations that would occur over time.

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2.9 Regarding claims 14 and 15, Kikinis does not explicitly disclose detecting the media data stream at a regular interval or after a specific departure from a current transmission rate.

These methods of stream rate monitoring are commonplace in the art and do not represent a patentably distinct feature over the prior art.

2.10 Per claim 16, Kikinis teaches that the media data stream is sent to the client computer while another media data stream to another client is sent at an independent rate (Abstract; col. 6, lines 39 - 46).

2.11 Regarding claim 17, Kikinis discloses that the media data includes a video image, and further comprising:

selecting a region of the video image to view on the client computer (col. 10, lines 57 – 67 “necessary to zoom and pan to see an entire page”);

sending a request to the host computer via the network requesting transmittal of data corresponding to the selected region of the video image (col. 10, lines 30 - 57); and

sending data to the client computer via the network corresponding to the selected region of the video image (col. 10, lines 30 - 57).

2.12 Per claim 18, Kikinis teaches that successive regions are selected and viewed permitting panning (col. 10, lines 57 – 67 “necessary to zoom and pan to see an entire page”).

2.13 Regarding claim 30, Kikinis discloses transmitting the module to the client computer via the network (col. 4, lines 43 - 45).

2.14 Per claim 31, Kikinis teaches that said media data comprises recorded media data (Abstract "adapted files are saved and identified for future use in communicating with specific devices over Internet connections").

2.15 Regarding claim 32, Kikinis discloses a method of distributing multimedia data to a remote client computer via a network, the method comprising:

receiving a request for an applet from the client computer via the network (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 14, line 64 – col. 15, line 7);

transmitting a Java module to the client computer via the network (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 14, line 64 – col. 15, line 7 "an interaction may be established wherein the user's device transfers the list of available features to the enhanced server.");

receiving a client computer specific parameter from the Java module on the client computer (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 14, line 64 – col. 15, line 7);

capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 11, lines 35 – 48 "a digital **camera** apparatus is provided with the hand-held unit, and a user can snap digital pictures and send the data to the Proxy-Server or to any other machine on the Internet"; col. 15, lines 9 - 22);

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generating media data indicative of said data according to the client computer specific parameter (col. 15 lines 9 – 22 “create the best fit in multimedia content for the requested data according to the user’s device capabilities and characteristics”); and

streaming multimedia data to the client computer via the network according to the client computer specific parameter (Abstract; Figs. 8; col. 11, lines 19 – 26; col. 15, lines 9 - 22).

2.16 Per claim 33, Kikinis teaches launching the Java module on the client computer via the network (Abstract; Fig. 1).

2.17 Regarding claim 34, the rejection of claim 8 under 35 USC 102(e) above (paragraph 2.5) applies fully.

2.18 Per claim 35, Kikinis discloses that the multimedia data stream is sent to the client computer while another multimedia data stream is sent to another client at an independent rate according to a client specific parameter for said another client (col. 12, lines 43 – 64 “a single Proxy-Server may server 100 or more field units simultaneously.”).

2.19 Regarding claim 36, the rejection of claim 31 under 35 USC 102(e) (paragraph 2.14) applies fully.

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3. Claims 4 – 16, 19 – 23, and 30 - 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sahai et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,594,699) (System for Capability Based Multimedia Streaming Over a Network).

3.1 Regarding claim 4, Sahai discloses a method of distributing media data to a client computer via a network from a host computer, the method comprising:

receiving a data request at the host computer from a client computer via the network (Abstract “request for service for a multimedia type data transfer”; Fig. 2, item 22);

launching a module on the client computer (Abstract; Fig. 2; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9);

receiving a client computer specific parameter from the module on the client computer (Abstract; Fig. 2; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9);

capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 6, lines 12 – 21 “The server 10 performs a media server process 40 ... which, upon receiving 42 the URL, play request and capability/preference information, picks the **appropriate media asset or real time file** ... to stream to the client 12.”);

generating media data indicative of said data according to the client computer specific parameter (Figs. 2, 3; col. 6, lines 12 - 49); and

streaming media data to the client computer from the host computer via the network according to the client computer specific parameter (Abstract; Fig. 2, item 36).

3.2 Per claim 5, Sahai teaches that the client computer specific parameter comprises the processing capability of the client computer (col. 3, lines 26 – 27 “CPU processing power and speed”).

3.3 Regarding claim 6, Sahai discloses that said streaming media data is at a rate compatible with the processing capability of the client computer (Abstract; col. 3, lines 23 – 27; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9).

3.4 Per claim 7, Sahai teaches that the media data stream is sent to the client computer while another media data stream is sent to another client at an independent rate (Abstract; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9).

3.5 Regarding claim 8, Sahai discloses that the client computer specific parameter is selected from the group consisting of video source selection, audio source selection, audio and video source selection, frame rate, compression level, image resolution, image brightness, image contrast, and image view (col. 2, lines 60 – 67; col. 7, lines 2 - 10).

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3.6 Per claim 9, Sahai teaches that the client computer is selected from the group consisting of a processor-controlled device or system that permits access to a network, including a terminal device, such as a personal computer, a workstation, a server, a client, a mini-computer, a main-frame computer, a laptop computer, a network of individual computers, a mobile computer, a palm-top computer, a hand-held computer, a set top box for a television, an interactive television, an interactive kiosk, a PDA, an interactive wireless communications device, and a mobile browser (col. 3, line 25 "TV set top, PC, lap top, etc.").

3.7 Regarding claims 10 - 12, Sahai discloses that the media data comprises:
audio data (col. 3, lines 57 - 60);
video data (col. 3, lines 57 - 60); or
video and audio data (col. 3, lines 50 - 56).

3.8 Per claim 13, Sahai does not explicitly teach:
launching a delay monitoring module on the client computer;
detecting a changed multimedia data stream transmission at the client computer;
sending a request via a network to a host computer requesting a changed multimedia data stream rate transmission;
sending a client computer specific parameter to the host computer via the network; and

sending a media data stream to the client computer via the network according to the client specific parameter.

However, the bandwidth that is deliverable to the client will vary over time, due to the load on the network varying over time, failure of system resources, etc.

Therefore, monitoring the rate at which data is actually being delivered to the client would enable the Sahai system to further tailor the data being delivered to the client in Sahai. This would allow the Sahai system to alter the delivery method to compensate for bandwidth variations that would occur over time.

3.9 Regarding claims 14 and 15, Sahai does not explicitly disclose detecting the media data stream at a regular interval or after a specific departure from a current transmission rate.

These methods of stream rate monitoring are commonplace in the art and do not represent a patentably distinct feature over the prior art.

3.10 Per claim 16, Sahai teaches that the media data stream is sent to the client computer while another media data stream to another client is sent at an independent rate (Abstract; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9).

3.11 Per claims 19 – 23, the updating of information related to a dynamic IP address and the monitoring for IP address changes is inherent in a real time data streaming to a client from a user selected URL (see Fig. 2), when the user selected URL implements a dynamic IP address.

3.12 Regarding claim 30, Sahai discloses transmitting the module to the client computer via the network (Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 46 - 64).

3.13 Per claim 31, Sahai teaches that said media data comprises recorded media data (col. 6, lines 12 – 21 “The server 10 performs a media server process 40 ... which, upon receiving 42 the URL, play request and capability/preference information, picks the **appropriate media asset or** real time file ... to stream to the client 12.”).

3.14 Regarding claim 32, Sahai discloses a method of distributing multimedia data to a remote client computer via a network, the method comprising:

receiving a request for an applet from the client computer via the network (Abstract “request for service for a multimedia type data transfer”; Fig. 2, item 22);

transmitting a Java module (Java applet) to the client computer via the network (Abstract; Fig. 2; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9 “the server 10, at the time of an initial hit on the home page for a multimedia service, to send or stream an application to the client, such as a **JAVA applet application in response to the initial http request.**”);

receiving a client computer specific parameter from the Java module on the client computer (Abstract; Fig. 2; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9);

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capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 6, lines 12 – 21 “The server 10 performs a media server process 40 ... which, upon receiving 42 the URL, play request and capability/preference information, picks the **appropriate media asset or real time file** ... to stream to the client 12.”);

generating media data indicative of said data according to the client computer specific parameter (Figs. 2, 3; col. 6, lines 12 - 49); and

streaming multimedia data to the client computer via the network according to the client computer specific parameter (Abstract; Fig. 2, item 36).

3.15 Per claim 33, Sahai teaches launching the Java module on the client computer via the network (Fig. 1; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9).

3.16 Regarding claim 34, the rejection of claim 8 under 35 USC 102(e) above (paragraph 3.5) applies fully.

3.17 Per claim 35, Sahai discloses that the multimedia data stream is sent to the client computer while another multimedia data stream is sent to another client at an independent rate according to a client specific parameter for said another client (Abstract; col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 9).

3.18 Regarding claim 36, the rejection of claim 31 under 35 USC 102(e) (paragraph 3.13) applies fully.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 8/26/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that "Kikinis fails to disclose at least 'capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data' as recited by independent Claims 4 and 31, as amended."

Examiner disagrees.

As detailed in the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) above, Kikinis clearly discloses capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 11, lines 35 – 48 "a digital **camera** apparatus is provided with the hand-held unit, and a user can snap digital pictures and send the data to the Proxy-Server or to any other machine on the Internet"; col. 15, lines 9 - 22).

Applicant argues that "Sahai fails to disclose at least 'capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data' as recited by independent Claims 4 and 31, as amended."

Examiner disagrees.

As detailed in the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) above, Sahai clearly discloses capturing data using at least one device configured to capture multimedia data (col. 6, lines 12 – 21 "The server 10 performs a media server process 40 ...

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which, upon receiving 42 the URL, play request and capability/preference information, picks the **appropriate media asset or real time file ...** to stream to the client 12.”).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 24 – 29 are allowed.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

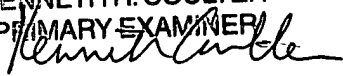
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth R. Coulter whose telephone number is 571 272-3879. The examiner can normally be reached on 5 4 9.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KENNETH R. COULTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER


krc